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A Family History That Is Interesting and Remarkable

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Shealy Have Traveled Life's Highway Together for Nearly Seventy-five Years—No Death in Family for Sixty-five Years.

The Psalmist tells us that "The days of our years are three score and ten; and if by reason of strength they be four score years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off and we fly away." And then the Psalmist further on exhorts "So teach

is almost wonderful to see how Mr. Shealy can get about. He rides a mule bare back yet and can mount any ordinary mule from the ground without assistance, and he says they never go too fast for him when he gets on.

His eyesight is remarkably good and he can read without the use of glasses and is full of life and loves a joke as well or better than many men much younger. In fact, no doubt his good nature and happy disposition have much to do with his long life and good health during all these years.

The parents of Mrs. Shealy, Mr. and Mrs. Bowers, objected to the suit of young Shealy for the land of their daughter, but love knows no barriers. Arrangements were made for the young lady to spend a while with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Monts, and from there Mr. Shealy took her on a mule behind him and soon found Squire Mike Fulmer, who often accommodated those who were desirous of entering the matrimonial relation, and the two were united in holy wedlock by the squire. It was not long after, however, before the parents of Mrs. Shealy became reconciled and they esteemed the new son-in-law as highly as any other member of the family. And they made their home with Mr. Shealy in their declining years.

Mr. Shealy and three of his sons served in the Confederate army and all five sons lived until only two years ago, when the first death in the family occurred, and soon after another son died. There are not many families in which the grim reaper has not appeared for a period of more than sixty-five years, but that is the history of this Shealy family. Three sons are still living and all of them are near the old homestead. Mr. Shealy is living in the same house that he began life in more than seventy years ago, and on the same place where he was born. If the two should live two years from the 7th of next February they will be permitted to celebrate their diamond anniversary. And Mr. Shealy will be very near the century mark.

The people of this section of Newberry county have always been noted

Sketch of the Family.

In 1745 a German settlement occupied what is known as the Dutch Fork in Lexington and Newberry counties. Among them was John Wendell Shealy, a young man 16 years old, from Heidelberg. He married the daughter of John Adam Summer, the pioneer of the colony. He made his home at the foot of Little Mountain, less than a mile from the present town of that

name. The fruits of the union were twelve sons and one daughter. This was the only family of Shealys that ever came to America, so far as this writer knows; still it is one of the largest, if not the largest, single family in the country considering the fact that they have been in this country only 160 years. They were all Lutherans and farmers. Their industry and thrift has always been marked and they have contributed more than their share in the industrial development of the communities in which they lived. No people surpass them in hardy, good health. They are noted everywhere for rigid honesty. They are never found in our courts on trial and as a rule they are ideal neighbors and citi-

zens. They are good church and school builders. Many of them have found their way through college and now they are found in all the professions, filling them with profit and honor.



Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Shealy and their five sons, from a photograph made several years ago. Seated are Mr. Jacob Shealy, born November 20, 1820. Mrs. Catherine Bowers Shealy, born December 29, 1823. Jacob Shealy and Catherine Bowers married February 7, 1843. Still living in the same house where they have lived for nearly three quarters of a century.

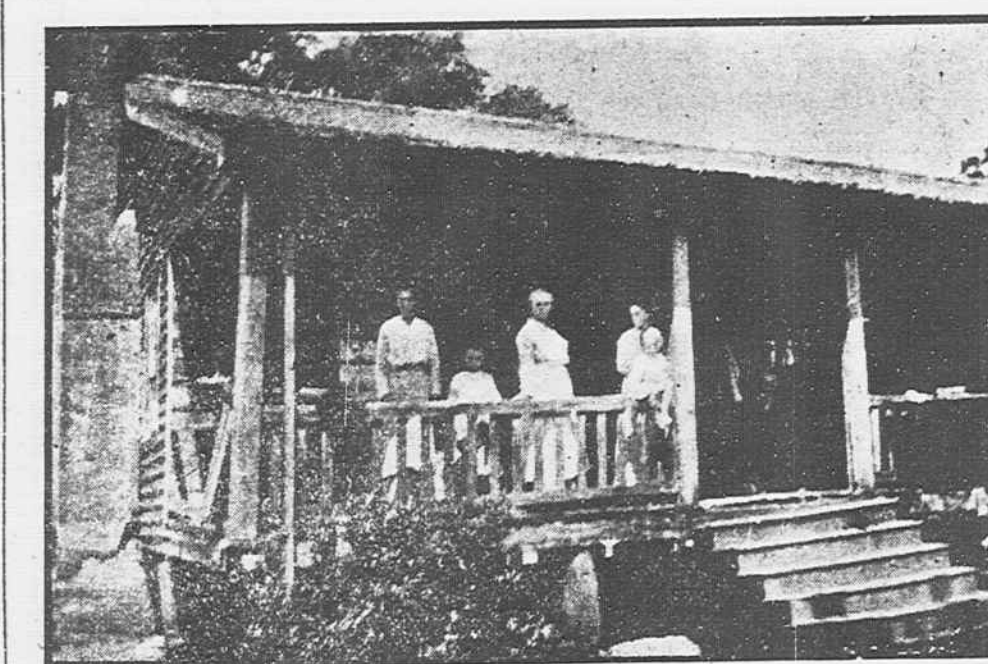
Top row, their five sons. Reading left to right—George Middleton Shealy, born November 24, 1844; died May, 1913. Drayton Isaiah Shealy, born March 26, 1846; died May, 1911. John Anderson Shealy, born August 8, 1849, still living near his father. Leander David Shealy, born September 25, 1851, still living near the old home. Luther Washington Shealy, born June 15, 1857, still living near the place of his birth.

operating on the coast of South Carolina. Two of his sons, George M. and Drayton I. Shealy, were with him there, but they were soon hurried to Virginia. The surrender found him at Hillsboro, with a clean record as a soldier and as a man.

His ability to vividly recount movements and incidents of the war is remarkable, and there is nothing that he delights in more today than to tell "war stories."

In 1842, with a stout and bold heart, he stole beautiful Catherine Bowers from her father's house, David Bowers, ran away with her and they were married. But, as often turns out in such cases, old Mr. Bowers never had a better son-in-law and was of course very

soon reconciled. To them were born five sons, who have all reared large families. Three of the sons are living in sight of the old home.



Home of Mr. Jacob Shealy, and where he has lived all his married life and where his five sons were born. There has never been a death in the house. Standing on the porch are Mrs. Long and her little daughter. Mrs. Long lives with Mr. and Mrs. Shealy and looks after Mrs. Shealy. Standing against the post is Mrs. John Ballentine and her little daughter. Mrs. Ballentine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Shealy, Sr. Standing in the center is Mrs. John A. Shealy, Sr. Sitting in the doorway at the head of the steps are Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Shealy. It is to be regretted that the photographer failed to get a good picture of Mrs. Shealy.

But the subject of the sketch is Jacob Shealy of Little Mountain, Newberry county. He is the oldest living representative of this large family. He is 96 years old, in perfect health, active and strong—can eat and sleep like a young man. Looks after his farm and attends his church every Sunday when it is possible, and is active in all that looks towards the good and upbuilding of his community. He was confirmed in St. John's Lutheran church, but later in life connected himself with St. Paul's, and was a strong power in the organization of Mt. Tabor, of which he is now a member. For more than 54 years he has con-

tinually been an officer of his church and his pastors have always known where to find him. His life embodies all that goes to make an ideal church member, and no pastor can recall his days with Mt. Tabor without thinking of Jacob Shealy.

In 1861 he responded to the call to arms and joined company F, light artillery. During the greater part of the war he served in Shultz's battery, family is composed of 5 children, 43 grandchildren, 94 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren, making 143 members of the family. Of these, two children are dead. Drayton I. Shealy of Prosperity, who, as stated, died at the age of 64, in May, 1911, and George M. Shealy of Newberry, who died at the age of 69, in May, 1913. Eight grandchildren are dead; 19 great grandchildren. Few families are blessed with such a record. Five generations living, all in good health and leading honorable lives.

THE NEWS OF PROSPERITY.
Fair Visitors Entertained at Rook Parties—Sunday School Convention.
Special to The Herald and News.
Prosperity, August 2.—Miss Willie Mae Wise entertained Monday evening in honor of Misses Creighton and Cowan of Rock Hill. An ice course was served.
Again on Tuesday morning Misses Creighton and Cowan will be honored when the Misses Hawkins will give a rook party.
Mrs. G. Y. Hunter entertained Monday afternoon from 6 to 7 the participants of the time reading which was given in town hall Friday evening.
Mrs. J. D. Quattlebaum has as her guest Mrs. Ira Carson and children of Batesburg.
Miss Kathleen Merchant of Columbia is visiting Misses Mary Lizzie and Margaret Wise.
Rev. and Mrs. E. W. Leslie leave today for Virginia, where they will spend the month of August.
Mr. A. H. Hawkins made a business trip to Greenville Monday.
Miss Jessie Chapman of Columbia is spending a few days with Miss Grace Sease.
Misses Ellen Werts and Eula Joiner visited Mrs. J. B. Bedenbaugh of Pomaria last week.
Mr. R. L. Luther of Atlanta and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Luther of Columbia are guests of Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Luther.
Mr. W. M. Poindexter of Houston, Va., spent the week-end with Rev. E. W. Leslie.
Misses Elberta Sease of Little Mountain, and Quinnette Dantzler of Holly Hill are house guests of Miss Willie Mae Wise.
Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Black and family spent Sunday at St. Marks.
Mr. Eric Black and Miss Eunice Fulmer were married Sunday at St. Marks parsonage by Rev. W. A. Dutton.
Mrs. J. O. Holmes and little Catherine Colmes are visiting in Columbia.
Mrs. R. T. Pugh and Miss Eula Joiner will spend a few days this week in Columbia.
Misses Lena and Laurie Lester are spending a while on Sullivan's Island.
Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Wise and Mr. J. L. Wise leave today for Glenn Springs.
The county convention of the W. C. T. P. held their annual convention at the Sunday school convention of No. 9 township was held last Saturday in Bethel (Baptist) church. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. P. E. Monroe, president of Sumnerland college. The welcome address was made by Mr. W. H. Long, superintendent of the Bethel Sunday school. The response was given by Mr. Joe Long of the Mt. Pilgrim Sunday school. The program was then discussed by the different members of the convention. The superintendent of the Sunday school should have Christian character, intellectual ability, tact and feel the responsibility of the work.
The teacher should make a thorough preparation of the lesson and know how to present it. Teachers should be selected from the best available material and trained by means of normals, conventions, teachers' training course and private.
A well organized home, a well conducted school and the church are the factors that make for Christian citizenship. Dr. G. Y. Hunter made a very strong address on the temperance cause. Ruth Hunter delivered a recitation, her subject being, "A Father's Story."
The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:
"Deploing the titanic evils of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drink, and in view of the approaching election on September 14th, on the question of State-wide prohibition, Resolved, first, That it is the convic-

GERMANS STILL FAIL TO OCCUPY WARSAW

RUSSIANS WITHDRAW WITH FIGHTS IN THE REAR.

Climax to Austro-German Offensive in East Expected Hourly—Activity in West.

London, Aug. 1.—The anniversary of war's outbreak passed without the Germans occupying Warsaw, said to be part of their program. However, news of this climax to the Austro-German offensive in the east is expected hourly, for what little information is allowed to leak through declares the Russians for several days have been withdrawing to the Brest line, leaving small forces to fight rear-guard actions so that the main armies may make good their retreat.

These rear-guard actions have developed into fairly large battles, as the Russians, whose steadiness has been phenomenal in face of defeat, are offering stubborn resistance and delivering powerful counterattacks. They have prevented Field Marshal von Hindenburg from throwing more of his troops across the Narew, repulsed German attacks northwest of Warsaw and driven back to the river some of the invading troops who crossed the Vistula south of Warsaw.

In the southeast Field Marshal von Mackensen continues his victorious advance. He has swept aside the resistance of the Russians and forced them to retreat along both bank of the Bug. The Germans already have passed Chelm in pursuit. Thus on this front the retirement of the Warsaw armies is seriously threatened.

During the month of July Berlin says the Germans captured more than 95,000 Russians between the Pilica river and the Baltic alone.

The Russians, according to Petrograd, have stopped Gen. von Buelow's advance in Kovno province towards the Vilna-Petrograd railway. If Grand Duke Nicholas is to hold the Brest line after his retirement from Warsaw it is necessary that Gen. von Buelow's offensive be arrested, for should he reach the railway he would interfere seriously with the Russian communications.

It is not yet certain whether the Russian armies can make good their retirement from Warsaw. The Austro-Germans have moved up very strong reinforcements to hasten their encircling movement. The appearance of troops also suggests that the German staff will not be satisfied with the capture of the city or even the destruction of part of the Russian army, but should this be accomplished will attack the Brest line and endeavor finally to crush the entire Russian forces.

Meanwhile the Germans, who appear to have an inexhaustible supply of munitions, are fighting desperately to retain every position they hold in the west. They have recaptured part of the trenches lost to the British near Hooze and are trying to regain what they lost to the French in the Muenster region of Alsace.

An unconfirmed report from Rome tonight says the Austrians are preparing to evacuate Trieste and already have removed the machinery of the munitions factories.

tion of this convention that all Christian people and all others who stand for the material, moral and spiritual welfare of South Carolina and the salvation of our young men from the demon of rum, should earnestly and incessantly pray, labor and vote for State-wide prohibition.

"Resolved, second, That this convention urge the pastors, Sunday schools and churches of this township and of the State to do all in their power to insure a sweeping victory at the polls on September 14th."

The thanks of the convention were extended to the Bethel Sunday school and the people of the surrounding community for the hospitable entertainment of the convention.

The following officers were elected: President—J. S. Wheeler. Vice President—W. H. Long. Secretary—D. M. Langford.

The convention was well attended. Much enthusiasm was manifested and will certainly result in good.



A snap shot of Mr. Jacob Shealy taken in the front yard of his home in June, 1915.

us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

It is not often that our days go beyond the four score years, but now and then we find examples of it. It is a very rare occurrence that it is permitted unto any two people to go down the road of life as husband and wife for a half century, and when it nears the three-quarters of a century it is indeed rare. A few years ago there were several couples in the lower section of this county who had trav-



Mr. Jacob Shealy, from a snap shot made of him while he was hoeing cotton in his field in the summer of 1914.

eled the road together for more than a half century, and at this time there is a couple whose married life is nearing the anniversary of the diamond wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Shealy of near Little Mountain have traveled life's highway together for a little more than seventy-two years. And they are both young in spirit and Mr. Shealy is as active as a boy of sixty summers, and can run up and down the steps just like a boy. Mrs. Shealy has not been in excellent health now for several years, but Mr. Shealy is in fine health and bears his ninety-five summers remarkably well. He still does the work about his place and some little work in the farm.

The writer has made three visits to the home during the past two months in an effort to get a good picture of Mrs. Shealy, but each time failed. It

for their thrift and industry, and while they have never accumulated large fortunes, they have lived frugal lives and had few of the worries of some of those of other communities. The land is rugged and rocky and yet productive. The people are honest and intelligent and are now devoting themselves more than ever to the education of their children and taking more interest generally in the civic and political matters that affect all the people. They are splendid citizens and good church members and workers in all things for the betterment of the community and the State.

It is the wish of this writer that Mr. and Mrs. Shealy may be at least permitted to travel life's journey together until they reach the diamond anniversary of the date they plighted their faith one to the other. And many more years, too.

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